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## THE VENEREAL CLINICS AND DETENTION HOMES OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.

While a large part of the campaign against venereal disease is educational in character it is indispensable also to provide clinics and detention homes where the venereally infected can secure advice, diagnosis, and treatment.

In developing this phase of its work the Public Health Service, through its Division of Venereal Diseases, now operates 102 clinics for the free treatment of venereal diseases and 33 detention homes for the quarantine and treatment of infected persons; 29 of the 33 detention homes are in direct cooperation with the clinics operating in the extra-cantonment zones or the so-called United States Government clinics. In most cases these detention homes are operated by the clinic personnel.

The following statistical report covers the activities during the month of January of only 15 clinics and 13 detention homes, 12 of the latter being in direct cooperation with the United States Government clinics. Reports from the remaining clinics and detention homes were not received in time to be included in this report. The average number of days each of the 15 clinics were open was 25.5.

TABLE I.—*Patients under care of clinics.*

Sex, age, group, and color.	Total under care of clinics.	Remaining from last month.	New patients admitted.	Discharged—		Discontinuing treatment—		Died.	Remaining under treatment—	
				As non-infectious but not cured.	As probably cured.	With permission.	Without permission.		In clinics.	In institutions.
Male:										
15 years and over—										
White.....	1,691	1,303	388	-----	72	73	191	-----	1,345	10
Colored.....	2,503	1,982	521	7	131	160	206	-----	1,992	7
Under 15 years—										
White.....	25	18	7	-----	-----	2	-----	-----	21	1
Colored.....	40	29	11	-----	-----	2	2	-----	36	-----
Female:										
15 years and over—										
White.....	1,456	1,169	287	36	106	83	101	1	880	239
Colored.....	1,558	1,271	287	17	62	76	159	3	1,162	79
Under 15 years—										
White.....	51	42	9	-----	1	2	-----	-----	41	7
Colored.....	51	36	15	-----	1	2	-----	-----	47	1
Total.....	7,375	5,850	1,525	60	374	410	659	4	5,524	344

Table I shows that there were 7,375 patients listed in the active files of the 15 clinics and the detention homes. Of the 1,525 new patients admitted during the month 1,500 were admitted at the clinics, the remaining 25 being sent direct to a detention home operating independently of any of the clinics. The average number of patients admitted during the month at each of the clinics would, therefore, equal 100. It will be noted that 374, or 24.8 per cent, of the patients terminating treatment were discharged as probably cured, and 60,

or 3.9 per cent, were discharged as noninfectious but not cured. The most striking feature of Table I is the fact that 659, or 43.7 per cent, of the patients terminating treatment discontinued without permission. The number of patients remaining under treatment on January 31 was 5,868, of which 5,524 were under treatment at the clinics and 344 in the detention homes.

Of the 7,375 patients there were 6,612 who were actually treated, the remaining 763 being under observation. To the 6,612 patients there were 19,796 treatments administered, 5,796 of which consisted in the administering of asphenamine, 4,953 doses to infectious cases, and 843 to noninfectious cases of syphilis. In addition to the actual treatments there were 1,959 examinations and consultations without treatment. There were also 583 prophylactic treatments given at the clinics operating in the extra-cantonment zones at San Antonio, Tex., and Little Rock, Ark.

TABLE II.—*Record of attendance at clinics.*

Sex, age, group, and color.	Total number of visits to clinics.	Voluntary visits.	Involuntary visits.	Visits due to persuasion.
Male:				
15 years and over—				
White.....	3,521	3,128	287	106
Colored.....	4,292	3,735	419	138
Under 15 years—				
White.....	78	74	1	3
Colored.....	44	41		3
Female:				
15 years and over—				
White.....	3,319	2,088	1,134	97
Colored.....	3,124	2,014	942	168
Under 15 years—				
White.....	114	95	14	5
Colored.....	86	52	32	2
Total.....	<sup>1</sup> 15,705	<sup>1</sup> 11,912	<sup>1</sup> 3,170	<sup>1</sup> 623

<sup>1</sup> Included in these totals are visits made by patients whose color was not stated.

The number of visits to the clinics as shown in Table II equals 15,705, or a daily average attendance of 41.1 at each of the clinics. Table II clearly shows that the number of voluntary visits far exceeds the involuntary visits. It is especially interesting to note that 623, or 3.9 per cent, of all the visits to the clinics were due to the persuasion of the social workers and nurses comprising the clinic personnel.

During the month there were 239 patients placed in detention, 226 of whom were females. It was found that of the total number of females 98.2 per cent were found infected with venereal diseases.

The laboratory work of the clinics may be summarized as follows:

Wassermann examinations.....	1,528
Microscopic examinations for <i>Treponema pallidum</i> .....	55
Microscopic examinations for gonococci for diagnosis.....	2,476
Microscopic examinations for gonococci for release.....	1,342
Total.....	5,401